

REMARKS

Claims 1, 26, 51 and 54-82 are currently pending, with claims 1, 26 and 51 being independent. Claims 1, 26 and 51 have been amended and dependent claim 54-82 have been added. No new matter has been introduced. For example, support for the new claims may be found in the application at, for example, page 4, line 21 to page 10, line 12.

Claims 1, 26 and 51 have been amended in response to the rejection under section 112, second paragraph. The amendments are believed to address all of the Examiner's concerns.

As amended, each of claims 1, 26 and 51 are directed to a process (or an associated device) in which an individual is identified by using only a portable communication device by inputting the biological information of the user in the communication device and checking the inputted biological information of the user with reference biological information previously stored in the portable communication device. Then, only in the case where the checking has matched, the authentication information is transmitted to a server or a connection from the portable communication device. Accordingly, data need not be exchanged between the user and the server (or the connection) for purposes of identifying an individual, and, as a result, costs associated with communication with the server (or the connection) can be reduced, and any need to repeat the identification process from the beginning in the event of a communication error can be avoided.

Claims 1 and 26 have been rejected as being anticipated by Pare, U.S. Patent No. 5,764,789. Applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection because Pare does not describe or suggest the use of a portable communication device in the manner recited in claims 1 and 26. Instead, Pare describes a system in which biometric identification is performed by a server that is located remotely from the individual who provides the biometric (i.e., biological) information.

Claim 51 has been rejected as being anticipated by Li, U.S. Patent No. 6,219,793. Applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection because Li, like Pare, does not describe or suggest a system in which an identifying element of a portable communication device identifies a client, as recited in claim 51. Li describes a system for identifying an

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Page : 10 of 10

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individual to identify a client using biological information of the client provided by a fingerprint capturing module 101 and a mobile phone 102. However, in Li's system, as shown in FIG. 1 of Li, a particular user's fingerprint data (corresponding to "the reference biological information" recited in claim 51) is stored in a central authentication system 106 and is not loaded into the mobile phone 102. Accordingly, the mobile phone 102 does not have a function for storing at least one reference biological information of the client or for checking the read biological information with the reference biological information, as recited in claim 51.

Applicant submits that all claims are in condition for allowance.

Enclosed is a check in the amount of \$1230 for the \$600 excess claims fee, \$180 for the Information Disclosure Statement fee, and \$450 for a Two-Month Extension of Time fee. Please apply any other charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

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